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ONTARIO

Department of Education

Courses of Study

Grade X

MODERN LANGUAGES

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X
1938

Issued by Authority of
The Minister of Education

COURSES OF STUDY

FOR

Grade X (Form II Lower School and Fifth Classes)

IN

Collegiate Institutes, High, Vocational and Continuation Schools
and Public and Separate Schools

FRENCH

The programme as outlined for Grade IX will be continued in Grade X, the remaining fourteen lessons of "Basic French" constituting the course of study.

It is again emphasized that the objective in reading is comprehension. By the end of Grade X the pupils should be able to read simple French with pleasure; there should be no occasion for the laborious effort of fitting together individual words. The stories to be read are so carefully graded, progressing so slowly in vocabulary, idiom, and construction that translation of the text would be a sheer waste of time and would actually retard the development of the pupil's power of comprehension. Questions in French to be answered in French, first orally and then in writing, should be continued as a means of testing comprehension. It is suggested that the pupil write on the blackboard the answer he has just given orally. The work of the rest of the class need not be interrupted while he is writing his answer, but the written answers should be corrected before the end of the class period. This practice in simple oral and written composition, begun in Grade IX, will gradually increase in scope. In addition, the pupils should be encouraged at this stage to use the French they already know to explain simple expressions in the text. They should even be asked to give in their own words the content of short passages.

Increasing emphasis should be placed on dictation and oral reading. Constant attention should be given to accurate pronunciation. The individual sounds of the language formed the subject of study in the first year; now the centre of interest should be the sounds in combination: word grouping, liaison, stress, and intonation. The pupils should read in concert and individually, observing and imitating the rhythm indicated by the teacher.

Special stress is laid on the verb in the section of "Basic French" to be covered in Grade X. The verb is the most important part of the French sentence, and by the end of this year of study the pupils should have a thorough knowledge of all forms of the regular and irregular verbs contained in the text-book.

Additional exercises will have to be supplied by the teachers as is the case in Grade IX.

GERMAN

The objectives in the study of German in Ontario schools are in the main identical with those in French, viz., an understanding and appreciation of the German people to be gained through the medium of their literature, and the ability to communicate with them in their own language. As in the study of French, the emphasis should, especially in the early stages, be put on reading for comprehension. This does not preclude the translation of an occasional difficult word or phrase when that seems to be the only way to ensure comprehension.

At the outset only sufficient grammar should be taught to make comprehension attainable. Although formal grammar is not to be stressed, it is essential to learn fundamental rules and paradigms and to aim at accuracy throughout.

Since the reading method is to be stressed, the pupil must be supplied with interesting and well-graded reading material. Only by reading, will he acquire a sense of power over the language and the ability to understand the people whose language he is studying. The emphasis on reading should make it possible for the pupil to read considerably more than he has read in the past and to read with much more enjoyment than hitherto.

While the reading objective is of prime importance, it is recognized that the speaking and writing of German are valuable achievements in themselves; they also stimulate the interest of the pupil and bring to him a sense of accomplishment. As much oral use of the language as possible should be made.

It is believed that the objectives mentioned can be attained through the use of "Lernen Sie Deutsch" (Holt & Co.).

It is suggested that the first twelve lessons be covered in Grade X and the rest of the book in Grade XI. Additional reading material will have to be supplied and it is recommended that "Allerlei" (Chicago—Heath) be used for Grade X and "A Graded German Reader" (Crofts & Co.) for Grade XI. These three books will provide approximately 225 pages of reading material (80 pages in Grade X and 145 in Grade XI). It is felt that pupils who are studying German should read at least this amount in the first two years.

GERMAN

The objective of the study of German is to enable the student to understand and appreciate the German people to be gained through the mastery of their language, and the ability to communicate with them in their own language. As in the study of French, the emphasis is on the oral stage, but on reading. This does not preclude the acquisition of an extensive vocabulary. The first word is given which is the key to the rest of the vocabulary.

As it is a new language and not a foreign one, it is not to be compared to Latin. It is a new language and not a foreign one, it is not to be compared to Latin. It is a new language and not a foreign one, it is not to be compared to Latin.

Since the reading method is to be used, the pupil must be supplied with interesting and well-graded reading material. Only by reading, with the help of a teacher, can the student acquire the ability to understand the German language. The emphasis on reading should not be misunderstood. It is not to be a mere reading of the text, but a reading which is a part of the whole. It is not to be a mere reading of the text, but a reading which is a part of the whole.

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